

DIVERSE REDS TASTING NOTES

2021 Wahle Holmes Hill Vineyard Pinot Noir \$36

Our Holmes Hill Vineyard sits in the southwest corner of the Eola-Amity Hills AVA. This wine is produced from Pommard, 777 and 115 clones on a non-irrigated site. Enjoy aromatics of blueberry, pomegranate, lavender and forest floor supported by a mulled cherry palate. Try with pici or other pasta covered with a baby bella mushroom ragu.

2022 Long Walk Vineyard Zinfandel \$45

Our 2022 Long Walk Vineyard Zinfandel started as certified organic Zinfandel grapes grown at our estate in Ashland, Oregon and made at the Carlton Winemakers Studio by our consulting winemaker, Jerry Murray. The wine opens with a nose of baled hay, brown sugar, and fresh and dried plum. It arrives on the palate as a fresh, silky sunami of black fruits. Flavors of plum, cassis cordial and turbinado sugar are seasoned with fresh oak and orange peel. Youthful tannins are quickly resolved and dissipate into a finish of brandy dipped dried figs and horehound candy. We love this wine with roast chicken and also with barbecued meats like beef or pork ribs. Tomato based sauces go especially well - hence the barbecue reference! 92 pts Paul Gregutt & 92 pts Wine Enthusiast

2021 Ratio Bellevue Cross Pinot Noir \$60

I first heard of Bellevue Cross Vineyard in 2018 when the owners reached out to me looking for a buyer for some of their fruit. It was a tiny unpolished gem of a vineyard planted in 1991 with own-rooted Dijon 115 vines. After a few years of bringing the vines back into balance, the wine now stands alone. The nose is cherry and blood orange with sage, cinnamon, nutmeg, star anise and vanilla bean. The palate is the centerpiece here with vibrant red fruit and citrus driving to the long tense finish. This wine is super fun to drink now but promises to reward time in the bottle with darker fruit nuances and an improved silky texture. The bright red fruit and acidity pair well with the fat of terrines and pates or rich cheeses like camembert or brie. For vegetarian options, this sings with mushroom risotto or roasted vegetables. 93 pts Vinous

2023 Ridgecrest Vineyard Gamay Noir \$36

"Harvested from the oldest block of Gamay Noir in the Willamette Valley, circa 1985, and treated with as much care and attention to detail as our Pinot Noir. Vivid, vibrant, and deep, the purple-garnet color hints at the complex blackberry, plum, cherry and pomegranate mélange on the palate. The fruit is accented by signature high-wire acid levels and spices galore, ranging from white to black pepper and brown baking spices and cedar elements; threads of basil herb, cigar, and dark-grained bread are interwoven with restrained tannin, giving it three-dimensionality. Intriguing black and blue fruits are elevated by a bright, fresh tension, giving it an elegance and balance that lead us to believe it has the potential to age for some years." Pair with Steak and frites or grilled burgers.

2023 Asilda Grenache \$48

Bright, bold, deep crimson color with hints of floral and spice on the nose. It presents a middle palate flavor of dark fruits, like plum and dark cherry with hints of spice. It pairs well with beef, lamb, duck, turkey and spicy foods such as stews.

2022 North Valley Reserve Pinot Noir \$50

Once again, we are very pleased to collaborate with Studio Winemaker Mel Liebeck to produce a distinctive example of our Reserve Pinot Noir. Vinification was conducted with the inclusion of roughly 25% whole clusters. Aging occurred in a mix of new and neutral French oak—about 30% new. The lion's share of the fruit was sourced from our estate vineyard, Aegrina (McMinnville AVA) alongside proud partners: Thoma vineyard (Dundee AVA) and X-Omni vineyard (Eola-Amity AVA).

Aromatics build gradually, leading with a burst of mixed-berry fruits. The range of reddish and darkish berries are complemented by a sprinkle of savory spices, culinary herbs and a subtle sense of dried floral aromas reminiscent of potpourri. The palate shows a clear parallel with the nose on first impression: a spectrum of black and red berries are the handshake. The fruits themselves remind us of the ever present brambly-yet-juicy blackberries which surround many of our vineyards here in Oregon. The blackish berries are expanded upon with the ever-classic cherry tone of Willamette Pinot Noir. Present alongside these fruits we find savory, peppercorn accented spices, dried rose petals, and a deep earthiness which makes us eager for mushroom season to return. The wine has a refreshingly forward motion, carried by a brisk acidity and fine tannins. 93 pts Eric Guido, Vinous



PORTFOLIO CLUB TASTING NOTES

2022 Ridgecrest Estate Pinot Noir \$60

The Ridgecrest Estate Pinot from 2022 is a complex and elegant blend of all our favorite blocks of Pinot in the Estate. The nose has dusty marionberry, blueberry cobbler, slate, and pencil shavings in multilayered harmony. On the palate, we are greeted with density, velour-like tannins, and great lingering firmness, accented by blackberry, dried flowers, black tea, and cedar. This wine is beautiful, fresh and complex with a deep core of lengthy tannins and mineral-driven earthy fruit.

2023 Founders Sparkling Pinot Noir Rosé \$30

We sourced Pinot Noir from Fennwood Vineyard and added a little bit of CO₂ to create a gentle fizz. What is the end result? Gentle acidity, wonderful length, aromatic notes of cherry and strawberry. The palate carries a lychee subtle start with the bubbles carrying out a ruby grapefruit finish. We're sure that you're going to enjoy this one. Winemaker Mel Liebeck recommends you pair with your favorite appetizer (Mel's favs are crab cakes, baked brie and pork belly bites) or your lazy Tuesday night dinner.

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2022 Aubaine Anahata Vineyard Joie Pinot Noir \$72

Youthful and deep purple in color with a brilliant edge and limpidity, the first nose opens with aromas of fresh field strawberries, dusty rose petals, and hints of lavender and bergamot. Elegant and balanced, those aromas blossom with a swirl to fresh peonies and an assortment of mixed berries: some raspberries and fresh strawberries intertwined with hints of blueberry peach crumble. Smooth yet vibrant on the palate with a juicy core of red fruits, the silky tannin profile travels beautifully through mid-palate and tightens elegantly through the finish. There is a harmonious balance of bramble berries, strawberries, hints of baking spice and earthy minerality. This wine reveals the compelling classic Pinot Noir characteristics all around: light yet wonderfully full and with an energy to age beautifully and gracefully overtime. 96 pts International Wine Report

2024 Project M "Astria" Pinot Blanc \$30

Astria opens with a nose of white flowers, firm peaches, and hints of oyster shell. It enters the mouth generously with firm white and yellow peaches lightly dressed in Meyer lemon juice. The relaxed generosity is short-lived as the acidity pushes the gas pedal to the floor, creating a sense of acceleration. It finishes long and clean, like polished glass. Astria is best on a table with the fruits of rivers and seas: oysters, halibut ceviche, tuna tartar, grilled shrimp, and, of course, local salmon.

2022 Ratio Willamette Valley Pinot Noir \$35

In some years, wines from different vineyards don't blend together as well as in others. In 2022, I worked with fruit from three vineyards; as it turned out, leaving one of the vineyards out of the Retina blend was more compelling than including it. This wine, from Bellevue Cross Vineyard in McMinnville AVA, has a warm, inviting nose with blackberry, cherry, sage, cured olives and spice. The palate is lush and filled with crushed berries and citrus carrying through to a long, warm finish. This wine is great with food fresh off the grill: hamburgers, barbecue ribs, or grilled chicken...and don't forget to throw some crusty bread on the grill and slather it with goat cheese. 92 pts Vinous



PINOT NOIR CLUB TASTING NOTES

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2023 Asilda Estate Pinot Noir \$52

The 2023 blends Pinot Noir from four different clones from the top and middle sections of our Timbale and Thyme Vineyard. Dijon 115 brings red fruit to the spice from the Mt. Eden clone and dark, earthy notes from Calera and Pommard. The nose is filled with crushed cherry, strawberry, fennel pollen, and roses. The palate is soft and supple, combining a mouth filling quality with a lovely central tension carried by red fruit and citrus to the long, mineral finish. This pretty wine pairs well with braised poultry such as Coq Au Vin, grilled Salmon or Camembert cheese.

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2021 Project M Kairos Shadow Pinot Noir \$72

The 2021 Kairos Shadow Pinot Noir announces its arrival with a dark, delineated nose of black cherry, toasted oak, exotic wood resin, dried lavender, and cola. It enters as a sleek, shimmering wave of bright black cherry. The mid pallet quickly unfolds into a pop-up of fruit and earth flavors. The black cherry continues with hints of ripe raspberry and black plum. More compelling is the balanced interplay of savory notes as damp earth, warm Indian spices, and thyme augment the fruits. Wrapped in a dense dark purple satin fabric, the tannins convey an angst typical of youth. Though not implicitly, they promise to develop into a structure of subtle power and generous grace that the astute might find stunning. The finish is fragrant black tea and cherry that slowly fades like the sound hanging in the air when a symphony finishes. Pary with lamb chops or grilled quail.

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